

8th Grade College Planning Checklist

ALWAYS

- Discuss **college/military/career** path plans with your parents
- Keep your grades up, create good study habits, and take challenging classes to prepare for high school
- Do volunteer work, community services and extra-curricular activity hours and log it

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY

- Join the 8th Grade Google Classroom** hosted by the College & Career Center
- Keep track of your accomplishments as you go. Create a file now and record a summary of your activities, jobs, and experiences to use in creating a resume and also to generate ideas for college essays.

START CREATING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL PLAN – *What do you want to accomplish in the next 5 years?*

- Identify your interests, likes and dislikes, not just for school and classes but also in your life. This will help you determine your goals.
- Talk to adults such as teachers, school counselor, librarian, relatives or family friends who you think have an interesting profession. Ask them what they like about their job and what education it took for them to have that job.
- Ask your parent or guardian to help you research which high school programs will benefit your interests.
- Find puzzles and games that help you learn about a wide variety of careers.

MEET WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- Your counselor knows how to help you prepare to achieve the most out of high school.
- Be familiar with what you high school can offer you

UTILIZE THE CHS COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER (CACC)

- Engagement with the CACC will help narrow down your areas of interest.
- Take advantage of weekly college/university and professional speakers in the CACC.
- Regularly visit The CACC for information and guidance.

PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Academics aren't everything about junior high and high school – explore your interest in a sport, music, or drama?
- Explore summer opportunities. Look for a job, internship, or volunteer position that will help you learn about your interests.

SAVE FOR COLLEGE

- Talk to your parents! It's never too early to put money aside for college. Every little bit helps!
- Learning about financial aid early on can also help you down the road.

TIPS

- ✓ **DON'T** Procrastinate
- ✓ **JOIN** the Google Classroom
- ✓ **CREATE** your plan and be okay changing it as you go.
- ✓ **KEEP** your grades up
- ✓ **VOLUNTEER** and participate in clubs
- ✓ **MEET** with your counselor
- ✓ **REACH OUT** and ask the College and Career Center for help! We are here for you!

Your CHS Counselors and College and Career Advisors are always available to assist you. We can answer questions and help you navigate through high school and make a smooth transition to College, the Military or the Workforce.